

and remaining a pillar of support for those who have fallen on hard times are just some of the ways in which Fenimore has served Brooklyn over the years.

Madam Speaker, I'd like to acknowledge the very distinguished pastors that have poured their heart and soul into Fenimore Street United Methodist Church. They include: Revs. James L. Hall; C.S. Williams; J.S. Bell; C.A. Knesai; H.E. Kiley; G.W. Osman; L.H. Caswell; W.G. Griffin; G.L. Thompson; C.C. Coile; E.J. Marvin; H.C. Whitney; Arthur C. Brown; James Link; John S. Smith; Dr. W.C. Sainsbury; Ward J. Kemenway; James Veatch; Maron Cox; William Smartt; Randolph Fisher; Alfred Harper; Lester Baker; Dr. Neville Buchanan; Dr. Ivan J. Roberts and Dr. Maxine Nixon.

Again I'd like to congratulate and thank Fenimore Street United Methodist on 120 years of service to Brooklyn.

#### RECOGNITION OF MT. DIABLO PEACE AND JUSTICE CENTER 40TH ANNIVERSARY

##### HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 14, 2009*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Mt. Diablo Peace & Justice Center, an invaluable institution in the San Francisco Bay Area that will be celebrating its 40th Anniversary on October 19, 2009.

Founded in 1969 by the late Andy Baltzo, the Mount Diablo Peace and Justice Center was initially known to most residents of Contra Costa County as simply, "The Peace Center." Its goal was to provide residents of the East Bay with a voice against the escalating war in Vietnam as well as a focal point for issues of social justice.

After our troops returned from Southeast Asia, members of the Peace Center recognized that the quest for peace and justice is never ending. The Center turned its attention to issues of nuclear arms reduction, military disarmament, and avoidance of U.S. entanglement in the conflicts in Central America.

Instrumental in the early development of the Peace Center was the work of a core group of committed peace activists including Arne Westerback, Louise Clark, and Sheila Pederesen.

Over the years, the Center expanded its focus to include a wide range of programs that addressed raising peaceful children and race awareness. The larger community continued to have a voice through the Peace Center and has benefited from organized non-violent protests against military conflicts, including most recently the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. These protests take the form of peace marches, demonstrations, and a unique war memorial known as The Crosses of Lafayette. Much national and even international attention was focused on the local community when multi-denominational memorials were erected on a highly visible hillside one for each American military service member who has died in the current conflicts. It's a silent but powerful reminder to all who pass by of the human toll of war.

The Mt. Diablo Peace and Justice Center also provides inspirational classes in non-violence

that continue to benefit the community as a whole. With its access to nationally known speakers, educational forums, and film series, the Center is able to promote peace and justice through a variety of mediums. Students, parents and teachers have access to a wide range of programs that include the Art and Writing Challenge and Youth in the Military, a counseling service for young people on national service alternatives to the military. Through local food collection and distribution, The Center also addresses the needs of the poor living in our local community.

As our world becomes seemingly smaller, the Peace Center is once again broadening its program. Currently, plans are underway for an International Peace Youth Camp which will bring outstanding teen leaders from around the world to the Center. Once at camp, they will have the opportunity to get to know each other and learn new methods of co-existence through cultural exchange.

Today, dedicated Peace Center leaders such as Barbara and Ed Tonningsen and Bob Hanson continue to bring the lessons of non-violence to our community and beyond.

I applaud the Mt. Diablo Peace and Justice Center for its strong, principled, and ongoing voice on the issues of peace and justice and I am proud to bring this organization to the attention of my colleagues. Congratulations to past and present members who have kept the Center viable and dynamic throughout the decades. As you celebrate 40 Years of Peacemaking, I wish you continued success.

#### 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

##### HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 14, 2009*

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark the momentous 40th anniversary of the Texas A&M International University.

Texas A&M International University first began as a "center" in August 1970 under Texas A&I University in Kingsville in order to fill a demand in teacher education and business disciplines. Seven years later, the name changed to Laredo State University and in 1993, the institution became Texas A&M International University. In the fall of 1995, the Texas Legislature authorized the expansion of a four-year undergraduate program status with an eventual authorization for doctoral programs. Today, the university has been at the forefront of providing higher education and cultural opportunities to students of Laredo and surrounding south Texas region.

Texas A&M International University consists of the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Business, the College of Education, the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, and a NCAA Division II Athletics program. Undoubtedly, this university serves as a unique asset to the fundamental groundwork for progressive and influential Hispanic serving institutions. TAMIU has 92 percent of students identifying themselves as minority, including, Hispanic, African-American, Asian and other. Additionally, a rising number of baccalaureate graduates have been first-generation college students. This university has seen enrollment

growth of approximately 10 percent every academic semester and recently welcomed its largest freshman class ever. The growth in admission numbers has provided social strides towards students attending the highest quality programs built on solid academic foundations.

Over the years, TAMIU has increased success for the development in the community, educational achievement, and promising academic endeavors. I am happy to have this opportunity to congratulate Texas A&M International University on the occasion of its 40th anniversary, and I wish all staff and students many more years of success.

#### IRAN SANCTIONS ENABLING ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

##### HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 13, 2009*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a cosponsor and supporter of H.R. 1327, the Iran Sanctions Enabling Act. The apparent pursuit of nuclear weapons capability by the Government of Iran cannot be met with silence. Iran's history of concealing its nuclear facilities and programs has rightfully alarmed the international community about Iranian Government's ambitions. The revelation last month of a previously undisclosed uranium enrichment facility under construction near Qom adds to a growing list of deeply troubling actions by the Iranian regime. President Obama stated clearly that this new facility does not appear to be configured for the production of fuel for nuclear power reactors. Iran has a responsibility to fully comply with the International Atomic Energy Agency inspections and to definitively clarify the status and nature of the Qom site.

Unfortunately, the mistrust and skepticism surrounding the Iranian nuclear issue are a result of more than Iran's covert efforts. The provocative and threatening rhetoric that we have come to expect from the President of Iran is cause for great concern both for our allies, such as Israel, and for our own interests in the region. In addition, we have witnessed the Iranian regime carry out brutal acts of violence against Iranian citizens as they gathered peacefully to express their political beliefs. The United States cannot ignore this violation of basic human rights, but neither can we ignore the stark reminder about the potential consequences of a nuclear weapon in the hands of a government that expresses such disregard for the lives and liberties of its own citizens.

Taken together, the Iranian Government's actions are inconsistent with those of a nation seeking peaceful nuclear energy technology. It is incumbent upon the Government of Iran to demonstrate unequivocally to the international community that it is not attempting to cultivate nuclear weapons.

Until the Iranian regime fulfills this responsibility, Iran will face the consequences of non-compliance with this internationally recognized obligation. The provisions of the Iran Sanctions Enabling Act should be part of those consequences. This bill would authorize state and local governments to divest their assets from, and prohibit investment in, any company